

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 as indicated below. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A polymerisable mixture comprising at least the following two components:

- (i) a liquid crystal monomer or pre-polymer having cross-linkable groups;
and
- (ii) a photo-orientable monomer or oligomer or polymer that, when photo-oriented, induces an alignment of ~~liquid crystals~~ the liquid crystal monomer or pre-polymer.

2. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, wherein the cross-linkable liquid crystal component (i) is present in an amount of 100 parts by weight, and the photo-orientable component (ii) is present in an amount of at least 0.1 part by weight.

3. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 2, wherein the photo-orientable component (ii) is present in an amount of at least 1 part by weight.

4. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 2, wherein the photo-orientable component (ii) is present in an amount of at least 10 parts by weight.

5. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, wherein the photo-orientable component (ii) comprises molecules showing a cis-trans-isomerism.

6. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 5, wherein the photo-orientable component (ii) comprises a compound belonging to the group of azo dyes.

7. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, wherein the photo-orientable component (ii) comprises a linearly photo-polymerisable monomer or oligomer or polymer.

8. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, wherein the cross-linkable liquid crystal component (i) has a nematic phase.

9. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, wherein the cross-linkable liquid crystal component (i) has a cholesteric phase.

10. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, wherein the cross-linkable liquid crystal component (i) has a ferroelectric phase.

11. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, wherein the cross-linkable liquid crystal component (i) is or comprises acrylate or diacrylate.

12. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, further comprising chiral molecules.

13. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, further comprising dye molecules.

14. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, further comprising dichroic molecules.

15. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, further comprising fluorescent molecules.

16. (Previously Presented) A mixture according to Claim 1, which is dissolved in a solvent.

17. (Previously Presented) A presensitised film precursor, comprising a substrate carrying a layer of a mixture according to Claim 1.

18. (Previously Presented) A substrate having an electrically conductive surface which carries a layer of a mixture according to Claim 1.

19. (Previously Presented) An optical component comprising an at least partly polymerised layer of a mixture according to Claim 1.

20. (Original) An optical component according to Claim 19, wherein the layer is optically anisotropic.

21. (Previously Presented) An optical component according to Claim 19, wherein the layer is polymerised with a preferred orientation direction.

22. (Original) An optical component according to Claim 21, wherein the layer is polymerised with locally varying preferred orientation directions.

23. (Previously Presented) An optical component according to Claim 19, wherein the layer has the function of an orientation layer.

24. (Previously Presented) An optical component according to Claim 19, wherein the layer has the function of a retarder or an optical filter or a polarizer or a polarised light emitter.

25. (Previously Presented) An optical component according to Claim 19, wherein the layer has the function of an orientation layer as well as the function of a retarder, an optical filter, a polarizer, or a polarised light emitter.

26. (Previously Presented) A method of making an at least partly polymerised, optically anisotropic layer of a mixture according to Claim 1, comprising

- (a) exposing the mixture to linearly polarised light while maintaining such conditions that the polymerisation or cross-linking of component (i) is essentially inhibited, whereby at least some of the molecules of the component (ii) are photo-oriented; and
- (b) allowing component (i) to adopt the imposed orientation(s) and exposing the mixture to light, whereby at least some of the molecules of the component (i) are polymerised or cross-linked.

27. (Original) A method according to Claim 26, wherein during step (a) the mixture is maintained in its isotropic phase.

28. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 26, wherein during step (a) the mixture is exposed to light of different directions of polarisation in different parts.

29. (Previously Presented) An optical component made by a method according to Claim 26.